

Club Copy

Mid Calder Camera Club

Open Competition - 18/2/09

Prints - Beginners

I - Just a bit dark and lost overall.

AM - Not a bad viewpoint and composition, reasonably unified and without intrusions. Three points of interest well located in picture area. But tones and colours just too dark to bring out best of nature of trees and hillsides. Feeling of wanting to see more beyond picture area. Lighting and atmosphere disappointing.

TM - Seems technically well exposed and focused. Printing could have brought out tones and colours better. Nicely mounted 'in sympathy'.

E - Not the happiest exhibit in home or exhibition.

T = 11.

2. Falkirk Wheel by Night.

I - Initial attraction if somewhat 'bitty'.

AM - Viewpoint, perspective and elements included form quite a good composition in terms of unity and concentration. However, lighting, colours and tones seem too 'over the top' to be credible. (A management problem?) Good attempt - not easy.

TM - Exposure - not easy. Focus fine. Again, tones not easy but not bad but cannot believe the colours are appropriate. Another well mounted.

E - Not something for house wall but might be an eye catcher in a club exhibition. T = 13.

2. Five Geese a Laying.

I - Sparkling and appealing - but laying?

AM - Well caught and contained 'strung out' image of geese. Like texture and sparkle of water. Good attempt against the light - large splashes of reflected sunlight a bit overwhelming and main interest perhaps too far to right. Would have taken 1 inch plus off top which is distracting.

TM - Exposure commendable and focus good on birds. Shadows good but might have brought down highest highlights.

Mounting seems ideal. E - Place in a bird lovers home and useful club exhibit. T = 16.

Prints - Intermediate

1. Anstruther Harbour.

I - Quite bright and appealing.

AM - Well composed, contained, balanced and nicely framed by masts on each side despite the many 'fussy' elements. Good viewpoint, perspective and depth. Fairly late side daylighting ideal to bring out image. Colours and tonal range about right.

TM - Exposure and focus seem right and printed well to make best of highlights, shadows, tones and colours. But, slightly over enlarged for details? Nicely mounted.

• - Useful place in boat club or club exhibition.

T = 18.

2. Autumn at Loch Lubhair.

I - Attractive if slightly receding feeling.

AM - Nicely composed with mountain and reflection well placed and framed by trees and foreground vegetation. No unwanted elements but was it too late in the day to make the best of the autumn colours and tones?

TM - Technically sound overall but brighter printing might have made more of autumn colours. Quite well mounted with (these days) unusual green mount not out of keeping.

• - Quite nice but not a 'home' piece and liable to be passed in an exhibition. T = 15.

3. Building upon a Reflection.

I - Quite attractive but not brought out by time of capture.

AM - A good well tried idea with dominant placing off building commendable but too much of imposing building in shadow. Dominated, instead, by bridge which should support image. Light does subdue 'odds and ends' at foot and weather ideal but not the right time of day. Pity.

TM - Technically not bad in general but could shadow areas not have been lightened to much better effect in printing?

Mounting fine apart from black rebate.

• - Unusual enough to find a corner in an exhibition.

T = 13.

4. Crocosmia "Lucifer".

I - Somewhat mysterious in title and content.

AM - Very difficult to interpret as a nature picture being neither informative nor simply decorative. Odd elements and colours in places puzzling. Light seems about right but some alternative approach, viewpoint and use of subject matter might have been better.

TM - Exposure O.K. but focus seems questionable. Printing and mounting seem acceptable.

E - Not really a piece for exhibiting.

T = 9.

4. Dali Museum in Figueres.

I - An immediate and stunning image.

AM - Nicely seen and captured with viewpoint, angle, perspective and depth about right. Roof elements, window metalwork and hedge etc. well placed. Lighting and colours fine. Pity about little shadows to left and, perhaps, a touch tight overall.

TM - Technically excellent including attractive printing and mounting.

- - Honoured place in any exhibition.

T = 20.

6. Falls of Dochert.

I - Pastoral but very appealing capture.

AM - Gentle Scottish image well caught. Like composition - triangle of moving water from top neatly stopped by lower rocks to left and right. Also like the real impression of moving water, not foam! Dark trees help to contain composition. Just a pity the daylighting was not brighter to bring out the best in tones and colours.

TM - Exposure, including shutter speed, fine. Also focus. Could printing have been brighter? Presentation fine.

- - A good place in the house hallway, perhaps.

T = 18.

7. Fern Unfurling.

I - A very appealing nature study.

AM - Nature as shown to its best. Essential element shown nicely stopped at foot. Well detailed and informative. Ideal contrast between plant colour and out of focus but not bland green background. Lighting not too bright to burn out colours in highlights. Level viewpoint seems just right.

TM - Technically fine but might have had a touch more punch in printing. Mounting fine.

- - Good specialised exhibit.

T = 18.

8. Four Door Thatched Cottage.

I - Simple but appealing find - but what would the planning authority say?

AM - Flat frontal elevation suggests a form of architectural study. Clear, highly detailed image in keeping. Door colours make it interesting and amusing. But would a slightly more 3D viewpoint have been better? Also, dingy lighting rather sad suggesting a blue colour cast.

TM - In general, technically good but printing might have been brighter and removal of colour cast.

- - More a curious than outstanding piece to show.

T = 14.

9. House on the Cliff.

I - Very attractive find if a little unbalanced.

AM - Quite a good idea - low viewpoint and upward perspective in vertical format with nothing intrusive. But, feeling of too little house and too much cliff, the latter of a dominating colour. Uncomfortable feeling house tottering. Suggest square off below larger plant. Lighting not bad to bring out texture. TM - No technical questions apart from cropping. Excellent presentation and mounting.

- - Another curio that might find a corner in a club exhibition.

T = 15.

10. St. Peters from the Tiber.

I - Attractive but no more.

AM - Quite nice composition, the downward viewpoint showing gentle curve into distance and dome.

But, perhaps viewpoint a shade high, inclined to divide upper and lower areas by extent of water into two pictures - boats and city. Overcast, dull weather does not help.

TM - Well exposed and sharp. Best made of lighting in printing and well presented.

E - Could use more punch to be an attractive exhibit.

T = 16.

11. Sweet Pea (Study at F2.8).

I - Simple, passably effective but somewhat vague capture.

AM - As a nature study, limited extent could be successful including placing in frame but the few elements are too indeterminate to be either informative or form a decorative pattern. Lighting and colour could be the foundation of something better here.

TM - Hard to see if in focus anywhere but well exposed. Within limitations, nicely printed and mounted.

E - Not really for home or exhibition.

T = 1

11. Wise Hoolet.

I - Good impact and realisation of "character".

AM - A good nature study quite well homed in on. Definite sign of being deep in thought and ignoring irrelevances! Very clear image with nicely contrasting green out of focus background. Probably better to square off foot above white patch and concentrate on 'wisdom'.

TM - Good job technically, apart from possible cropping. Well presented. E Ideal image for bird lovers.

T = 18.

Prints - Advanced

A Wet Day at Concorde.

- Attractive if a little restrained by weather.

AM - Interesting composition from lampost to columns, fountain to distant Eiffel Tower and wet street reflecting broken sky. Pity about lost base of lampost. Nothing out of place and best made of rather poor daylight and subdued colours.

TM - Exposure and focus fine. Also printing and mounting.

- - Nice but not lasting exhibit.

T = 16.

2. Autumn Glow.

I - Relatively simple but appealing.

AM - Nicely picked up with stream leading from near rock through middle ground to more distant opening in bank and line of trees. Near rock a touch solid, large and shapeless but nice changes of tone in middle ground. Autumn tints seem a little strong. Shutter speed (?) has lost character of stream and pool at foot.

TM - Exposure seems fine if shutter speed not ideal. Focus good. Printing a little rich in yellow, perhaps. Nicely mounted.

• - Not one to draw and hold attention.

T = 15.

3. Bleu a la Plage.

I - A touch of originality to make it appealing.

AM - Interesting pattern picture which does not quite come off. Perhaps too constricted and contained. Would it have been better to include virtually the whole of the lower and upper shades to a wider format? And, perhaps, a little more plage. Like colours and tones in reasonable daylight. Commendable attempt at something different.

TM - Technically fine apart from thought of cropping rather narrow. Quite nicely printed and mounted, if mount colour, perhaps, not ideal.

E - Might have useful curiosity value in a club exhibition.

T = 17.

2. Eiffel Tower by Night.

I - Appealing but grandeur not quite caught.

AM - Interesting capture but too great extent of dark areas in sky and near ground. Odd lights and windows distract. Better to have gone for a vertical format showing dominance of Tower supported by alleyway of lights. Colours and tones not easy but well caught. Rather a lost chance.

TM - Technically fine with thought of bringing out Tower a bit more in printing. Nicely mounted/presented.

• - Exhibit rather likely to be passed by - as presented.

T = 14.

5. Frosty Morning.

I - Some quite stunning qualities.

AM - A landscape of the 'everything but the kitchen sink' variety. Certainly fine viewpoint to bring out perspective and depth. Like full character of foreground to icy middle ground to distant mountains and echoing clouds. Could have provided a number of pictures but interest not divided in this case. Fine sunlight, shadows, colours, etc. Well done,

TM - No quibble with any technical aspects,

E - A place in the home, perhaps, and certainly in a club 'show'. T = 19.

6. Hibiscus Flower.

I - A very good and immediate floral capture.

AM - Very commendable flower study. Nice level viewpoint to be seen at best. Clearly in focus with supporting elements behind suitably out of focus. Like red against mainly green background in suitably subdued light not to burn out colours. Perhaps an inch off top and right side better to reduce red competition.

TM - Technically fine apart from thought of slight crop and middling mount colour (not currently in fashion).

• - A pretty good exhibit, perhaps in a specialised exhibition.

T = 17.

7. Ice Sheet.

I - Very attractive, if no more, at chosen moment.

AM - Good viewpoint and perspective from ice sheet to middle patches, distant mountain and clouds. Hangs together well with no intrusions. Lighting seems just a bit docile and/or false. Bottom section to just below ice does not add anything and could have been cropped out.

TM - Technically O.K. apart from feeling of a slight colour cast.

E - Not really a lasting eye catcher.

T = 15.

7. Snow Looms at Glen Coe.

I - Another very appealing find.

AM - About the right place, time and light. Good, orthodox composition from rather plain rock to plants to lit valley and snow. Unfortunately, a great deal of dark foreground to light at end of tunnel. Would a longer focus (lens) to more dominant light source have been better?

TM - Technically good but could darker areas have been brightened a bit in printing?

• - Might just find a place in a club 'show'.

T = 15,

9. Stag at Stob Dearg

I - Strong appealing animal capture.

AM - Good picture of the formidable "boss" of the glen. Like subdued backdrop of mountain, fringe of trees and broken foreground. Just right inclusion of animal. Pity lighting was not more striking to enhance drama. TM - Another good technically if not quite bright enough.

• - Dramatic number but unfortunate not brighter.

T = 17.

10. Stob Dearg.

I - Good location and moment for a very appealing image.

AM - Good and interesting double triangle composition - frozen stream and rocks supporting dominant mountain. Broken sky area helps and no annoying intrusions. Winter sun and shadow lighting more than useful.

TM - Technically just fine.

• - Ideal exhibit in club or elsewhere.

T = 19.

11. Sunrise at Stonehenge.

I - Close to stunning image of a well known landmark.

AM - Interesting variation on a theme - effectively an attractive skyscape over the ancient monument. The latter given a suitably diminished feeling to cover obscure, shallow foreground. Good capture of light and sun.

TM - Technically, again, very competent.
E - A cracking exhibit.

T = 19

12. Window in Nice.

I - Attractive but rather delicate impact.

AM - Well spotted, neat and tidy with interesting elements included. But, not easy to generate interest in joiner's art because of pale colours, lack of marked shadows or otherwise. Daylighting might best be described as nice. TM - No technical shortcomings but mount colour does not help.

E -- Just too pale to maintain interest.

T = 15.

Digital Images - Beginners

1. Beautiful Smile.

- Very appealing image.

AM - Attractive image, appropriately dressed, with young, bright character well brought out. Lighting and shadows good to acceptable and in keeping. But, parts of arms showing look odd - better to exclude arms or include hands. Also, white background rather stark - better a little more subdued and/or some vague pattern.

TM - Good exposure and focus. Tones good but somewhat wide range. Quite well presented.

E - Useful place in club show if a little overpowering.

T = 17.

2. Cold Rucksack.

I - Clever and quite appealing.

AM - On reflection, coloured rucksack, etc. seem to be floating free of out of focus background. Elements about right in extent and in picture area but lighting, shadows, etc. do not add up. Nice idea - but!

TM - Exposure and focus in colour O.K. but monochrome a bit off. Processing must be in question. Well presented.

E - Perhaps a useful surprise show item.

T = 13.

3. Drink and Drive.

I - Something else!

AM - Would not take out the Alfa Romeo too soon after that lot! Interesting format against grill and lights of car - which are suitably subdued. Best lighting where needed. Would have preferred blue bottle/green top one to left. Still(?) life! Very clever novelty. Colours and tones seem about right.

TM - Technically fine with emphasis where it matters and innovative presentation ideal.

E - Ideal show item as something different.

T = 20.

4. Feet in the Sand.

I - Very attractive catch.

AM - Commendable, well found, pattern picture against the light. Steps into and out of the upper 'busy' area about right. Like bright areas and colour/character of sand brought out by angle of light. Do not miss a 'centre of interest' in this case.

TM - Technically about right including tones and colours. Very acceptable presentation.

E - Useful variant in a show.

T = 16.

5. Forth Rail Bridge.

I - Just a little obscure.

AM - Size, strength and powerful feeling of bridge diminished by large area of somewhat characterless rock in foreground. Angle of light robbing bridge stonework of texture (and bringing internal lens reflections) does not help. Main interest to left and top - crop right and base to provide support to but not overpower bridge. Horizon dipping to right.

TM - Exposure not easy with flare a nuisance. Focus in order. Cropping down in presentation a must.

E - Competition rather fierce for a show.

= 11.

6. Loch Lomondside

I - Rather dim to be attractive.

AM - Composition quite well unified but, as a landscape, would benefit from less central emphasis by taking off left side half way to landing stage. (Part lost adds nothing). Like presence of white buildings. But, horizon/water running down to right and so much of interest obscured by poor evening (?) lighting. TM - Exposure perhaps under or treatment for presentation needed. Focus O.K. for size of enlargement. Needs some technical work.

E - Only a show item if worked on.

T = 12.

6. Pentland View.

I - Another with the attractions a bit lost.

AM - Worth while picture all in the upper middle section. The rest containing various shapes, angles, colours, etc. does not support but distract. Pity - because late daylight, colours and composition of part that matters not at all bad.

TM - Bit that matters seems technically O.K. but too much redundant in presentation.

E - Only one for the photographer.

T = 10.

S. Ratho Barges.

I - At first sight rather attractive.

AM - Composition a bit lacking. Not contained, unified and concentrated on barges. Substantial image of old building behind tends to be intruding rather than supporting boats. Like colours, tones and reflections. Another viewpoint might have

been better.

TM - No technical shortcomings.

E - A show item - only if a bit stuck for material.

T = 15.

9. Sunset on Burntisland.

I - Rather routine feel.

AM - Rather nice evening sky - cloud formation and colours. But, dim foreground with little in the way of interest does not really contribute. Also horizon (again) dipping to right. Strange highlight. Perhaps better to use only some water and far away shore as a base.

TM - As presented, technically not bad but needs straightening and shrinking. E - Another a bit of an 'also ran'. T = 12.

9. Tool Time.

I - Attractive and clever if rather 'vague' feeling.

AM - Pattern picture idea sound, including variations in colour, but, loses out because so many primary items out of focus, particularly the largest item - the tool box. Also, colours do not seem complementary to one another and relegated to in focus background. In the result, close to something better. TM - Exposure seems O.K. but focus for purpose dodgy. Presentation good. E - Only a show item as a novelty.

T = 13.

9. Waterfall.

I - Appealing capture, if not dramatic.

AM - Well found and appropriately tightly shot to provide a good unified composition without outside distractions. Ideal shutter speed to show flowing water, not ice or foam! Nature and placing of rocks ideal. Warm lighting and colours in keeping.

TM - Technically nice job all round.

E - Gentle, but there should be a place for this in a show.

T = 18.

Digital Images - Intermediate

1. Blast Off.

I - Appealing eye catcher.

AM - Suitably sharp, informative technical item. Suitably lit and clearly 'under fire'. Like composition including viewpoint, placing in frame and positions of airfield accessories. A commendable effort but not quite 'on the level' TM - Technically about as good as you can get for such a subject apart from dip in horizon.

• - Not too uncommon but good enough for a club show.

T = 17.

2. Blown Fuses.

I - Hopefully not a stunning find! Certainly different.

AM - Monochrome gives a suitably dated feeling. Like pattern within frame of decayed electrical items. Suitably clear, detailed and informative. Square viewpoint and drab lighting in keeping. Success from failure!

TM - Exposure, focus and monochrome presentation all seem to be in order.

• - Not likely to be of electrifying show interest!

T = 17.

3. Charlie.

I - More than attractive sepia capture.

AM - Good sepia portrayal of a somewhat dusky and mysterious lady. Rather heavy shadow on one side of face, still showing outline, is in keeping. Outline of dark hair just separated from background. But, pattern of lines in background (graffiti?) have a jarring feel. Poorest aspect is lady looking left but large empty area on right. Lighting suitable.

TM - Exposure may be in order. Focus is. Cropping, certainly, and slightly brighter presentation, perhaps, would have helped.

• - Might hold its own in a club show.

T = 16.

4. Deadly Silent.

I - Formidable feel.

AM - Not quite pictorial but not quite technical and informative either. More dead than deadly! Lighting, colours, shadow areas all good. What is white object just showing in picture area bottom right? Does not say enough. TM - Technically fine including neat presentation apart from need to lose white? on right.

E - Apart from neat presentation, not a show piece.

T = 13.

2. Falkirk Wheel on Display.

I - Close to stunning image.

AM - Not an easy subject given light conditions but well handled. Unfortunately, main interest on left tending to die away into fussy details on right. Slightly different viewpoint or crop to take out dark and detail on right better. Commendable effort.

TM - Technically good apart from need to lose fussy/dark areas.

• - A little too confusing to be of holding interest.

T = 15.

6. Focusing Rings.

I - Very well spotted with stunning appeal.

AM - Fine art to show art. Location, viewpoint and framing ideal. Like pattern and angle within frame - umbrella against light green, body against dark green vegetation. But, why false feeling of surrounding vegetation etc. so out of focus? Quite gentle lighting ideal.

TM - Exposure seems fine but odd, questionable focus a problem. Well presented.

- Would definitely be an item for a club show.

T = 19.

7. Golden Curcuma in Blume.

I - Appealing if a little distant.

AM - Very nice nature study showing single bloom against contrasting dark green vegetation. Daylighting on foreground seems ideal. Bloom well placed but pity it was not a little larger in frame.

TM - Exposure and focus right where it matters. Quite nicely presented.

E - Very useful show item.

T = 17.

7. Hats.

I - Innovative appeal.

AM - Fine pattern picture. Pity strongest colours towards right - perhaps offset by pattern and colour of stonework on left. Nicely subdued background. Pity, also, that mirror to hold together was not nearer centre.

TM - Technically sound all round.

E - Different enough to be a good show item .

T = 18.

7. High Key Dahlia.

I - More than attractive but just a little overpowering.

AM - Nice nature study well homed in on from a level viewpoint without distractions apart from marginal loss from one petal. Problem lies in key being rather high almost losing support and tending to bleach out fine colouring of petals. Tending to merge with very white background.

TM - Focus fine but exposure and/or processing over done. Nicely presented. I - Just too over the top for a show. T = 15.

2. Lagonda.

I - Attractive attempt at something different.

AM - Quite good go at a form of monochrome pattern picture which does not really come off. Basically the engineer's pattern dominated by the out of focus part headlamp. Lighting seems O.K. Might have been a better picture there from a wider view or a different angle.

TM - Technically fine apart from extensive, out of focus element.

E - On reflection, not for a show.

T = 13.

3. Moonlight Festival.

I - Good try but does not gel.

AM - Sadly, just a part of a wider panorama without a contained or unified feeling. Presence of moon not enough to pull it together. Lighting well caught with a useful suggestion of some pattern in the sky. Weight towards bottom suggests a more downward angle making more of reflections in picture area might have been better.

TM - Not a bad show of focus and exposure of a difficult subject. Possible help by getting rid of much above moon.

E - Only a reserve show item, at best.

T = 13.

4. Mull Race.

I - Very attractive capture.

AM - Good sports subject well filling and placed in frame. A touch dark but like sunshine through sail and pattern in sky. Useful variations in horizon but another dipping to right.

TM - Technically O.K. apart from tendency to dark areas and dip in horizon.

• - useful for a sports show.

T = 16.

13. On the Rails.

I - Another on the right lines!

AM - A good old fashioned image with train powering into picture. Like composition - rails into picture, position of train and smoke, building, trees and notice. Quite brightly lit.

TM - Exposure and focus right and nice presentation.

• - Not uncommon but attractive for a show.

T = 17.

14. Rusty Bolt.

I - Strangely attractive find.

AM - Too still life? Simple, effective composition with main element (bolt head) in right place. Nature and angle of lighting shows up crumbling surface very well. Colours, including background colours, in harmony, the latter suitably out of focus. Pity about minor distractions top and bottom right.

TM - No apparent technical shortcomings.

E - Show novelty, at best.

T = 17.

14. Solo.

I - Just a bit dim and distant.

AM - Nice portrait, well composed and showing an activity in an appropriate environment. Lighting picking out the main elements well but pity music, instruments and head seem so disembodied against the rest and background. A touch more light on the figure might have made all the difference. TM - While focus and exposure may be in order needs 'jazzing up' to bring out best.

• - Too indeterminate for a club show.

T = 14.

16. Storm Brewing.

I - Attractive example of a rather routine image.

AM - Good, if very orthodox, landscape composition with all the main elements in the right places. Could use a bit more drama. Perhaps bland, grey area at top might be cropped off. And would it be possible to add contrast to, the remainder?

TM - Focus and exposure look just fine but cropping and brightening would improve.

E - Rather commonplace for a club show. T = 14.

16. Watch out Mice.

I - Not easy and very appealing.

AM - Certainly drama in this bird study. Like isolation, placement and contrast of colours with plain green rural background from an ideal viewpoint. Lighting seems apt to bring out the best.

TM - Seems bang on both technically and in presentation.

E - Definite eye (or mouse) catcher for a show. T = 19.

16. Water Spray.

I - timely and appealing image.

AM - The ordinary made extraordinary. Ships and sprays ideally placed, the sprays echoing and reversing the bridge cables. Light and sky pattern a bonus with format just right. Nothing intrusive.

TM - Another without any technical faults and in right format.

E - Another good club show item. T = 19.

19. Wrong Turn.

I - Attractive in its own way.

AM - Rather an odd find with interest confined to bottom half of picture. While lighting apt and colouring good it poses the question why or why here? Needs something - a nose animal or a bird's nest, perhaps?

TM - Seems technically O.K. apart from redundancy of top half.

E - Definitely 'on the bench' for a show. T = 12.

2. Young Man and his Dog.

I - Bright and appealing family item.

AM - Happy double portrait. Like the honest enthusiasm of boy and dog equally coming through. Nice, not too strong daylighting. Figures well placed against a contrasting but complementary outdoors background.

TM - Focus, exposure, smiles and presentation all good.

E - A cracker to finish a club show. T = 18.

Digital Images - Advanced

1. Autumn Boat.

I - Attractive if rather routine but well presented image.

AM - Well composed and contained, with boat to a pleasing diagonal, and with no intrusions but perhaps too much boat and too little of the attractive autumn scene beyond. Range of tones good but feeling of a little too much autumnal tint. Lighting seems appropriate.

TM - Focus not quite crisp throughout but exposure fine. But, colour seems not quite accurate. Very nice presentation.

• - Not the greatest club show item. T = 13.

2. Blue Poppy.

I - Very appealing nature study.

AM - Like just what is included and effective placing within frame. Both informative and decorative. Colour contrast with background and richness of colour brought out by kindly lighting ideal. Level viewpoint good for plant but pity about horizontal stonework (?) lines behind.

TM - Technically very sound and presentation apt.

• - Must be a place for this in a club show. T = 19.

3. Dinner Time.

I - Clever, quite appealing, catch if just a little lost.

AM - Nicely caught animal study with useful reflection. Nature not kind to the photographer by having pattern of coat against the straw like and similarly toned background. Perhaps a bit off the right would have concentrated interest and been more helpful. Stronger daylighting might just have thrown animal into relief.

TM - Technically about best apart from thought of cropping. Could animal have been brought out via computer?

E - Perhaps a reserve item for a club show. T = 15.

2. Frozen Loch.

I - Very capable appealing image.

AM - Good viewpoint and unified composition from near 'patch' through lines of ice to far horizon and cloud formation, Nothing intrusive and bright daylighting adds to depth of image. Colours seem just right.

TM - No technical questions. Nice format and presentation.

E - Very useful variant for a club show. T = 18.

S. Gentle Smile.

- Close to stunning moment and capture.

AM - A very good portrait bringing out the honest, pleasant, happy, probably cheeky character of the young lady. Probably helped by the angle of her pose and the parasol accessory behind her. Face nicely lit. Pity right shoulder slightly lost. However, would have excluded part of image to just above part hand in corner.

TM - Exposure and focus first class. Small crop would have helped.

• More than likely club show choice. T = 18.

6. Kirk.
 I - Rather routine and slightly strange impression.
 AM - Nicely composed and contained within frame with lead in of lines of gravestones useful. However, dull lighting does not bring out character of stonework and may be reason for a feeling of a greenish cast.
 TM - No technical problems apart from feeling of a slight colour cast.
 • - Not really a show item. T = 12.
7. Notre Dame by Night.
 I - Stunning capture.
 AM - Not an unfamiliar view but very well picked up in the late evening light with just a hint of light and character in the sky. Well located in the frame but might have been better to have lost end of bridge and bright light of barge on left. Lighting and colours well brought out.
 TM - Excellent technical effort easily compensating for thought about left.
 • - Front runner for a club show. T = 20.
8. Palace of Versailles.
 I - More than attractive impact.
 AM - Very nice architectural study taken from a good viewpoint at a good angle. Useful foreground vegetation, water pools and reflections and slight relief in blue sky. Warm, evening (?) lighting an asset. But, a pity that the complete building frontage is not shown and runs out to the left.
 TM - Exposure seems fine but focus seems hazy towards right. Able presentation.
 • - Imposing enough to find some place in a club show. T = 16.
9. Paris at Dusk.
 I - Different, able but somewhat characterless capture.
 AM - Good attempt at a wide panorama but inclined to fall into two competing images - the river on the left and avenues etc. on the right. Middling tone with the daylight rather drab and failing and the artificial lighting only coming through slightly. Perhaps another attempt at another time in other conditions the answer.
 TM - Brave attempt technically including format but left a bit lifeless.
 • - Perhaps a curiosity item for a show. T = 13.
10. Robin Redbreast.
 I - Another close to stunning.
 AM - Excellent bird study, appropriately limited from a nearly level viewpoint and nicely placed in frame. Like very out of focus outdoor background in ideal contrasting colours. Brightish lighting seems fine. But, pity about prominent dark intrusion on left.
 TM - Excellent focus, exposure, tones and colours. Pity shape on left not cloned out.
 • - Close to automatic choice for a show. T = 18.
11. Winter Frost.
 I - Brave and appealing well presented image.
 AM - Good unified composition with lead in pattern of bright light and tree 'stop'. Viewpoint has perhaps produced weight of image too much to left. Certainly taken at right time in right light to show vivid details. Foggy looking cloud patch towards centre seems out of keeping.
 TM - Presentation slick and technically fine apart from that odd patch in centre.
 E - Good reserve if not a front runner for a club show. T = 17